Harold Weisberg Rt. 8, 21701 301/473-8186

Dear Jim,

Soon there will be Grandson of Whitewash. Name, Whitewash IV plus a subtitle.

For the first time there is an interest in subsidiary rights. Until I have the answer this means I've offered an initial exclusive. If it comes to pass, and the odds do not have me rushing out to buy a new lawnmower or even a steak, there will be much left.

So, I'm writing to tell you, to let you know that when I have a copy I'll send one to you, perhaps with a hold date, because I do think it is one you'll want to read before you say anything.

I'll have no California distribution unless someone can help me with a distributor who is not a crook. The one who handled the other books beat me heavily. Even the Elder operation did, as Hal Vere may remember from taking me there a couple of times to collect, each time with a promise made and not kept.

In fact, there is but a single distributor I know I'll be able to use, in NYC. All the other major ones owe me money and there is no point in giving them more they'll not pay for.

I was in NYC last week. When there I visited for a while with the one agent who really tried for me. He told me what he probably can't prove, that he is certain that there is a concerted federal effort to keep me from being published. This was from his experience. And with the book that turned the Ray case over. (There was a preliminary hearing on it today, on discovery motions for the evidentiary hearing. I was to have been there but decided instead to do what remains to be done on this newest work.)

A younger colleague has borrowed the money to pay the printer.

Because of one special aspect we feel we must give each member of Congress a copy. Or, 535 freebees plus the cost of getting them out to begin with!

Or didn't you know that the Senate has amended the Freedom of Information law back to what it was before the Nixon-Mitchell gang went to work on it, based on one decision in one of my cases and that of Patsy Mink et al?

I do think you will find much in this new book. I'm not telegraphing any of it because I can't and because you should get the full benefit of the surprises.

Excuse the haste and anything unclear. When a 61-year-old is his own investigator, writer, editor (?), makeupman, distributor, promoter, mail-order dept and assistant counsel he has little time. (Thank God my wife is the world's best indexer! She is also my equivalent of typesetter.) I'm having to try to get six hours' sleep these nights and that shortens the day more.

Sorry I'll not be able to travel with this. No money. Also other work. On the Ray case and a long book started in April and then titled The Unimpeachment of Richard Nixon. Draft almost completed. Were it not for this work it would be done and the editing started. No developments mean any changes. Which is boosting! Much new in it, too. And no rehashing with what is not new. It is put together as it never has been. I must finish it and look for a publisher. And once tax season starts, I'll have no typist. It is the one time of the year we have income, my wife's.

But I do wish I could get out there again. If only for "hellos."

Best,